and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pending Cases of Accident Claims Tribunal

2117. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 3308 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th April, 1995 and state:

(a) whether he is aware of the difficulties faced by the families of the victims of road accidents in getting the amount of compensation awarded by the Accident Claims Tribunal or otherwise because of the corruption at every stage of handling such cases;

(b) whether Government are aware that the families of victims have to pay large amounts to grease the palm of concerned officials for getting their cases settled and for receiving payments; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for eliminating the procedural delays leading to corrupt practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) Insurance companies have laid down the minimum procedure required for safeguarding the interests of the insurers and insureds. The procedures existing at present in respect of settlement of accident claims are comprehensive and no change is contemplated in the procedures by the insurance companies.

A structured formula for payment of compensation to road accident victims based on age group and income criteria has been introduced in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 with effect from 14.11.1994. The Claimant has the option to file a case in the MACT if the compensation as provided, is not acceptable to him. Apart from this, the Third party claims can be expedited through Lok Adalats and by availing the Jalad Rahat Yojna Scheme introduced by the GIC. These measures help in the speedy disposal of insurance claims.

Power Situation in Madhya Pradesh

2118. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of estimated Power shortage in the beginning and at the end of the VIIIth Plan in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the situation in that State, district-wise; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to check the transmission losses and improve power generation capacity of the existing power plants in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) According to the 14th Electric Power Survey, the estimated power shortage in Madhya Pradesh in the beginning (1992-93) and at the end of VIIIth Plan (1996-97) is 3% and 17.8% respectively. However the actual shortage during 1992-93 in Madhya Pradesh was 7.9%.

(b) In order to bridge the gap between demand and availability of power in Madhya Pradesh various measures taken are maximising the generation from the existing generating stations, implementation of Renovation & Modernisation Programme, reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses, effective load management and energy conservation measures etc. Assistance is also made available to Madhya Pradesh from neighbouring system whenever system condition are conducive to such transfer. In addition the state also gets its due share from the Central Sector Stations in the Western Region. District wise planning for power supply is done by State Electricity Board.

(c) Comprehensive guidelines have been issued by Central Electricity Authority to the Power Utilities for reducing

Transmission & Distribution losses. These include, conducting of Energy Audit for identifying the system elements responsible for excessive losses, installing capacitors to imrpove the voltage profile, preparation of system improvement schemes for strengthening the system, installing tamper-proof meters intensifying surprise raids and launching prosecution against the persons found indulging in theft of energy. Further, the theft of energy has been made a cognizable offence under the provision of Section-39 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. An incetive scheme was also introduced by the Government of India among the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments from the year 1987 for bringing about reduction in Transmission & Distribution losses. Power distribution falls within the perview of Electricity Boards/ Electricity Departments constituted by the State Governments. Various measures being taken to improve the generation in Madhya Pradesh include-Renovation and Modernisation of old units, supply of requisite quantity and quality of coal and training of operation and maintenance personnel etc.

Steps to Boost Activities of Indian Investment Centre

2119. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken some steps to strengthen and boost the activities of Indian Investment Centre:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time schedule fixed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Government has taken up a review of the role and relevance of the Indian Investment Centre in the present context of a liberalised business and economic environment for foreign and non-resident Indian Investments.

मध्य प्रदेश में विद्युत की कमी

2120. **श्री राघवजी:** क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में वर्तमान में विद्युत की कितनी कमी का अनुमान लगाया गया है और विद्युत के पारेषण के दौरान विद्युत की कितनी वार्षिक हानि हुई है; और

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास पारेषण संबंधी हानि को कम करने तथा पारेषण व्यवस्था का आधुनिकीकरण करने के लिए राज्य सरकार को वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराने हेतु कोई प्रस्ताव है?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती उर्मिला बेन चिमनभाई पटेल): (क) अप्रैल-जुलाई, 1995 की अवधि के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश में ऊर्जा की कमी 5.2% थी और वर्ष 1993-94 के दौरान वार्षिक पारेषण तथा वितरण हानियां 20.13% थी।

(ख) पारेषण प्रणाली को आधुनिक बनाने और पारेषण हानि को कम करने के लिए राज्य सरकार को कोई वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Representation on the privatisation of power sector

2121. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation from Member of Parliament has been received over the privatisation of the power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken on the suggestions made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHEMANBHAI PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hon'ble Members of Parliament have, *inter-alia*, raised issues regarding providing counter guarantee by GOI, cost of projects, cost of generation, outgo of foreign exchange, rate of return and given valuable suggestions.